

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5-73, 86-90, 92-96, 99, and 104-108 are pending in this application, Claims 74-85 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 74-85 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Tanaka (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0108043). However, Claims 1, 2, 5-73, 86-90, 92-96, 99, and 104-108 were indicated as allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and in order to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Applicants have canceled Claims 74-85 rendering the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) moot. Accordingly, only claims including allowable subject matter remain pending, and no further issues are believed to be outstanding.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 2, 5-73, 86-90, 92-96, 99, and 104-108 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/09)

Derek P. Benke
Registration No. 56,944